United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Great Lakes Region

News Release

NR-15-40 June 30, 2015

Biotechnology Varieties

The use of biotechnology varieties for corn decreased in Michigan in 2015, according the USDA, NASS, Great Lakes Regional. Biotechnology varieties accounted for 92 percent of the corn acres planted in Michigan, down from 93 percent last year. Soybean plantings included 94 percent biotechnology varieties, up 3 percent from last year.

Nationally, biotechnology varieties of corn totaled 92 percent of the acres planted, down 1 percent from 2014. Soybean acreage planted to biotech varieties was unchanged at 94 percent.

The following table is based on responses from the June Agricultural Survey. Farmers were asked if they planted corn or soybeans that, through biotechnology, are resistant to herbicides, insects, or both. Conventionally bred herbicide resistant varieties are excluded. Insect resistant varieties include only those containing *bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt). The Bt varieties include those that contain more than one gene that can resist different types of insects. Stacked gene varieties include only those containing biotech traits for both herbicide and insect resistance.

Biotechnology varieties: Percent of acres planted

Commodity	Michigan		United States	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(Percent)	*(Percent)*	*(Percent)*	*(Percent)*
Corn				
Insect resistant (Bt)	2	2	4	4
Herbicide resistant	15	16	13	12
Stacked gene varieties	76	74	76	77
All biotech varieties	93	92	93	92
Soybeans				
Herbicide resistant	91	94	94	94

P.O. Box 30239 · Lansing, MI 48909-9983
(517) 324-5300 · (855) 270-2709 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov